

Statewide Summary of Reported Domestic Violence
January 2002 – December 2002

In calendar year 2002, 91 out of 102 law enforcement agencies and eight tribal law enforcement agencies voluntarily provided some or all of the information requested by our office. This report summarizes that information on a statewide basis, and then offers a trend analysis of several key indicators over the past two years.

**Every 5 minutes, police responded to a call
involving domestic violence.**

In 2002, 91 agencies reported a total of 112,930 calls to service for domestic violence. Of those 112,930 calls for service, 58,230 police reports (52%) were generated for violations of statutes ARS § 13-3601 and § 13-3602. Of these police reports, 10,668 (18%) were submitted to a prosecutorial agency requesting criminal complaint.

There were a total of 28,298 arrests made for domestic violence crimes. 26,162 (92%) of these arrests took place at the scene, and another 2,136 (8%) occurred as a result of follow-up investigation.

**Every 19 minutes, an arrest was made
as a result of a domestic violence incident.**

86 agencies reported complete and accurate information (+/- 1) on the gender of those arrested for all four quarters of 2002. The data shows that out of 11,444 arrests, there were 8,247 incidents where males were arrested, 2,293 incidents where females were arrested, and 804 incidents where both male(s) and female(s) were arrested. These results reveal that men were arrested in 72% of the cases, women were arrested in 21% of the cases, and most significantly, that both the male and female were arrested in 7% of the cases.

The survey also asks about the presence of alcohol and drugs at the scene of domestic violence. In 2002, with 84 agencies reporting, alcohol was present at 18% of domestic violence scenes. With 85 agencies reporting, drugs were present in 4% of the cases.

There were 8,564 reported domestic violence cases involving alcohol.

There were 2,038 reported domestic violence cases involving drugs.

In 2002, 84 agencies reported that children were present in 33% of domestic violence cases.

**Every 36 minutes, police were called to a scene
of domestic violence where children were present.**

In the fall of 2003, after almost ten years of collecting this data, some major revisions were made to the survey form. The overhaul of the survey eliminated a number of questions, streamlining the form in an attempt to increase the validity of these important statewide domestic violence statistics. Beginning with the first quarter of 2004, all agencies will be reporting data using this new, streamlined version of the survey.

Trend Data for 2000 and 2001

Responses to five selected survey items were analyzed from agencies that reported complete data for eight consecutive quarters in calendar years 2001 and 2002. There were **78** such agencies—keep in mind that all totals and percentages in this section refer *only* to the 78 agencies that responded completely. The results of the trend analyses are reported below.

Question 1: Total number of calls for service:

2001—108,836

2002—99,707

Question 2: Total number and percentage of police reports generated for violation of statutes ARS 13-3602, 13-3602:

2001—53,415 (49% of calls for service)

2002—46,629 (48% of calls for service)

Question 3: Total number and percentage of cases involving arrest(s) at the scene:

2001—23,214 (21% of calls for service)

2002—20,619 (21% of calls for service)

Question 4c: Total number and percentage of cases in which both male(s) and female(s) were arrested at the scene (dual arrest):

2001—1264 (5% of all arrests)

2002—862 (4% of all arrests)

Question 10: Total number and percentage of cases in which police reports were submitted for prosecutorial agency requesting criminal complaint:

2001—10,967 (21% of all reports)

2002—9,524 (20% of all reports)

Question 13: Total number and percentage of cases where minors were present at the scene:

2001—14,677(27% of all reports)

2002—13,953 (30% of all reports)

Trend Analysis

There were 9,129 fewer calls for service in 2002 than in 2001, a decrease of 8%. There were also 6,786 fewer police reports generated in 2002, a decrease of 1%. In addition, there were 2,595 fewer arrests at the scene, but when adjusted in the decrease in calls for service, the percentage of arrests remained the same.

Trends reveal a slight decrease in dual arrests. Arizona and the nation are working on lowering the rate of dual arrests by training police officers to accurately identify the dominant aggressor and arrest only that person. In 2002 there were 402 fewer dual arrests made. However, because there was also a decrease in total arrests, the decrease in dual arrests was only 1%.

In 2002, there were 1,443 fewer cases submitted to prosecutorial agencies requesting criminal complaint. But because the total number of police reports also decreased, the percentage of cases going forward for prosecution decreased by only 1%.

In 2002, there were 724 fewer documented cases of minors present than in 2001. There were also 9,129 fewer total police reports. Therefore, the data actually reveals a 3% increase since 2001 in the number of cases where minors were present.